

Remarks

Claims 1-5, 7-17, and 20-25 are pending and at issue in the present application, claims 6, 18, and 19 having been canceled for reasons explained in detail below.

Applicant traverses the rejections of claims 15-25 as indefinite. Applicant thanks the examiner for the suggested corrections to claims 15 and 23 and has accordingly amended claim 15 to incorporate the phrase "and thereby indicating the end of the life of the product." Claim 23 has been amended as suggested to indicate that the color change indicator includes guaiazulene dye coated onto the substrate.

Applicant traverses the obviousness rejections of claims 3-7, 9, 11, 17, and 23-25 as being based on commonly owned art that is disqualified for consideration of obviousness under §103(c). Specifically, the items of art cited by the examiner, i.e., Munagavalasa et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0049410 and Munagavalasa U.S. Patent No. 6,534,079, were subject to assignment to the same entity as the present application at the time the invention recited by the claims of the present application was made. Accordingly, the obviousness rejections should be withdrawn.

Applicant traverses the rejections of claims 1, 2, 8, 10, and 12-14 as anticipated by Munagavalasa et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0049410. The substance of allowable claim 6 has been incorporated into independent claim 1, and claim 6 has been canceled. In claim 7, the phrase indicating that the volatile dye is guaiazulene has been omitted.

Applicant traverses the rejections of claims 15 and 16 as anticipated by Munagavalasa et al. U.S. Publication No. 2003/0049410 and gratefully acknowledges the examiner's indication that claims 19-22 would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. The recitations of claims 18 and 19 have been incorporated into independent claim 15, and claims 18 and 19 have been canceled. Therefore, claim 15, as amended, and claims 16 and 17 dependent thereon, are allowable. Claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form in accordance with the examiner's indication to include all of the recitations of the currently amended claim 15, and claim 22 has been amended to depend on claim 21.

Claim 9 has been amended to omit an incorrectly placed comma, and claims 20 and 22 have been amended to correct the previously misspelled word permethrin. These amendments do not affect the scope of these claims.

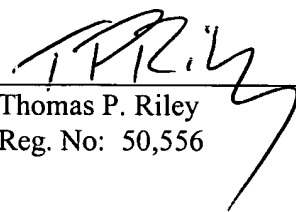
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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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